

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11

FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-02 SPC-03 STR-08

TRSE-00 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 L-03 FEA-02 SCI-06 INT-08

IO-14 OIC-04 PM-07 NSC-10 SAM-01 SS-20 DODE-00 PA-04

PRS-01 USIA-15 NEA-11 DRC-01 /200 W

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R 061805Z FEB 74

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6408

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION OECD PARIS

UNCLAS EC BRUSSELS 0773

STATE ALSO FOR T/IEP

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, EEC, US

SUBJ: ENERGY: COMMUNITY PREPARATIONS FOR WASHINGTON ENERGY
CONFERENCE

REF: EC BRUSSELS 750

1. AS REPORTED IN REFTTEL, FRG STATE SECRETARY APEL HELD THE
USUAL PRESS CONFERENCE AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE FEBRUARY 4-5
EC COUNCIL MEETING IN PLACE OF THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT. APEL
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MADE THE FOLLOWING REMARKS OF INTEREST IN CONNECTION WITH THE

ENERGY CONFERENCE IN ADDITION TO THOSE REPORTED IN REFTEL.

2. COMMENTING ON THE MANDATE WHICH THE COUNCIL HAD JUST APPROVED FOR THE COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES AT THIS CONFERENCE (EC BRUSSELS 749), APEL SAID THAT, OBJECTIVELY SPEAKING, IT WAS A POSITIVE BASIS FOR SAFEGUARDING THE INTERESTS OF THE COMMUNITY. HE CALLED IT A GOOD AND FAR-REACHING PAPER. HE NOTED THE IMPORTANCE OF MEETING ALSO WITH THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND THEN WITH THE PRODUCING COUNTRIES. HE EMPHASIZED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO CONFRONTATION AT THE WASHINGTON MEETING, AND SAID THAT THE CONFERENCE SHOULD GIVE NEW IMPETUS TO EXISTING INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS DEALING WITH ISSUES RELEVANT TO THE ENERGY SITUATION SUCH AS THE IMF, THE OECD AND THE UN. HE SAID THAT AT THE ENERGY CONFERENCE THE COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES WOULD ANALYZE THE SITUATION IN THE COMMUNITY AND GIVE AN APPRECIATION OF THE EFFECTS OF THE ENERGY CRISIS ON THE COMMUNITY. HE NOTED THAT THE WASHINGTON CONFERENCE HAS CERTAIN LIMITS, SUCH AS ITS SHORT DURATION, BUT THAT IT WAS THE BEGINNING OF THE DIALOGUE.

3. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS AS TO WHETHER OR NOT THE EC MEMBER STATES WOULD EXPLAIN THEIR OWN VIEWS INDIVIDUALLY AT THE ENERGY CONFERENCE, APEL SAID THAT IN THEORY THEY WOULD, BUT THAT IN PRACTICE HE HOPED THEY WOULD NOT. IT WAS CONCEIVABLE BUT NOT DESIRABLE THAT MEMBER STATES COULD PUT FORTH INDIVIDUAL POSITIONS. HE SAID THAT THE NINE SHOULD TRY TO KEEP " IN THE RANGE OF THE MANDATE".

4. IN CONNECTION WITH APEL'S EARLIER REFERENCE TO A PROPOSAL FOR A MEETING OF THE EC-9 WITH OIL PRODUCING STATES WHICH THE EC FOREIGN MINISTERS WILL CONSIDER AT THE EC POLITICAL COOPERATION MEETING ON FEBRUARY 14 (REFTEL), THE QUESTION WAS ASKED WHETHER THERE SHOULD BE INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS ON THE ENERGY SITUATION AT WHICH THE AMERICANS WERE NOT PRESENT. APEL REPLIED INDIRECTLY, SAYING THAT THE WASHINGTON CONFERENCE WAS THE FIRST STEP. THERE WAS NO REASON NOT TO HAVE ANOTHER STEP SOON AFTER, AND THERE WAS NO CAUSE FOR WORRY AT THE HOLDING OF A MEETING AT WHICH ONE OR ANOTHER COUNTRY, OR GROUP OF COUNTRIES, WAS NOT PRESENT. HE POINTED OUT THAT IN ANY EVENT, THE BONN MEETING

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STILL HAD TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL FOR A MEETING OF THE EC-9 AND THE OIL PRODUCING COUNTRIES.

5. THE QUESTION WAS THEN ASKED WHAT THE EUROPEAN REACTION WOULD BE IF THE U.S. MET WITH THE OIL-PRODUCING COUNTRIES WITH NO OTHER COUNTRIES PRESENT. APEL REPLIED THAT THE CONVERSATION WAS MOVING INTO THE FIELD OF SPECULATION AND HE REFUSED TO SPECULATE ON THE SUBJECT.

GREENWALD

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NNN

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